

Appl. No. 10/039,801  
Amdt. dated May 11, 2004  
Reply to Office action of January 29, 2004

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS:**

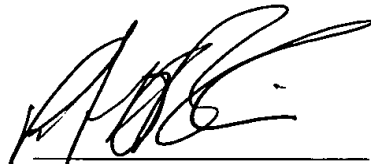
**REMARKS:**

In the office action, the examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of US Patent 5,836,196 by Smith. The examiner objected to claims 2-7 as being dependent on a rejected base claim and noted that claims 2-7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In his office action, the examiner also allowed claims 8-14.

In response to the office action, the applicant has: (1) Canceled claim 1., (2) amended claim 2 to include the limitations of claim 1, thus making claim 2 an independent claim with the limitations of original claims 1 and 2, and (3) amended claims 3 - 7 to depend from the amended claim 2.

Applicant respectfully submits that the specification, claims and drawings are now in proper form, and that the pending claims define allowable subject matter. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Date